

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend paragraph [0022] of the Published Patent Application as follows:

In another embodiment, a Service Policy Director is configured as a proxy, such that all user authentication requests are sent to the Service Policy Director, rather than to an authentication server. The Service Policy Director will then query an authentication server for each of the user's identification and attribute information, and finally forward the response from the authentication server to the appropriate user. In FIG. 1(b), a user 108 sends messages directly to a Service Policy Director 112. The Service Policy Director 112 then redirects the user's messages to an authentication server 114. When the ~~access-server~~authentication server 114 responds, the Service Policy Director receives and parses a response message sent by the authentication server, to obtain the identification and service attribute information of the user and then forwards the response directly to the user 108.